Library

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health & Sanitary Conditions

for 1953

A. DODD, M.D., M.R,C.S., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Lytham St. Annes Express Ltd. Wood Street, St. Annes-on-Sea.

Poulton-le-Fylde
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health & Sanitary Conditions

for 1953

A. DODD, M.D., M.R,C.S., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1953.

I thank the members of the Council and the Clerk for courtesy and help and acknowledge with gratitude the assistance which I have received at all times from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. G. Woolley

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. DODD, *Medical Officer of Health.*

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The area of the district is 2,410 acres, it is divided into five wards, viz.: Poulton North, Poulton East, Poulton West, Hardhorn and Carleton. It is bounded on the North side by the Urban District of Thornton-Cleveleys, on the East and South by the Parishes of Singleton and Hardhorn-with-Newton, and on the West by the County Borough of Blackpool.

The district is mainly residential, and most of the industrial population is employed by agriculture, the Imperial Chemical Industries, the British Railways and the Building Trades.

The area is supplied with good and wholesome water by the Fylde Water Board. The whole of the area is sewered on the partially separate system ; and is carried by gravitation to storage tanks situate on Skippool Marsh, and discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide.

Births.

Births :—Males, 65 ; Females, 42 ; Total 107.

The number of births registered in the district was 107, giving a birth rate of 13.7 per thousand of the population as against 14.0 per thousand for the previous year.

The adjusted birth-rate (Comparability Factor 1.03) was 14.1 per 1,000.

There were five illegitimate births, and one still birth registered.

Infantile Mortality.

Five deaths under one year were recorded during the year—giving a rate of 47 per thousand live births as against 28 for the previous year.

The causes of death in these cases were as follows : Acute Gastro Enteritis ; Conjenital Heart Disease ; Cerebral Irritation ; Atelectasis ; Meningo Myelocele.

The rate for England and Wales during the year was 26.8.

Deaths.

Males, 48 ; Females, 56 ; Total 104.

The number of deaths in the district was 104 after deducting deaths of persons not resident in the district, and adding deaths of residents which occurred in other districts.

This gives a crude death rate of 13.3 per thousand, compared with 14.0 in the previous year.

The adjusted death-rate (Comparability Factor 0.89) was 11.8 per 1,000.

Cancer (Malignant Neoplasms).

There were seventeen deaths from Cancer during the year, compared with twenty-four deaths in 1952.

CAUSES of Death.

The table below shows the causes of death of residents in 1953.

	Males	Females	Total
All Causes	48	56	104
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	6	4	10
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	9	12	21
Coronary Disease, Angina	9	6	15
Hypertension with Heart Disease	—	—	—
Other Heart Disease	1	9	10
Other Circulatory Disease	6	5	11
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	3	1	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—	—
Maternity Causes	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	2	—	2
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	2	6	8
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All Other Accidents	2	3	5
Suicide	—	—	—
	48	56	104

Infectious Diseases.

96 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

The following table shows cases of Infectious Diseases notified during 1953 (on page 5).

Table of Cases of Notifiable Diseases during 1953

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total cases of all ages.	AGE PERIODS — YEARS												Total Deaths	HOSPITAL	
		Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65 & Over		Total cases Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	21	—	1	3	2	—	9	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	5	—
Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	31	4	2	6	7	1	9	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excl. German Measles) ...	23	—	3	2	6	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia (primary & Influenza)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcial Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	10	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	2	1	1	—	1	10	1
Acute Encephalitis Infective... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis Post Infectous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Any other diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	92	4	6	11	15	7	29	5	1	5	5	2	2	1	15	1

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Supplies of Diphtheria Anti-Toxin are now obtainable by Medical Practitioners from Victoria Hospital, Blackpool.

Whooping Cough.

31 cases were notified, all in children. No deaths from the disease occurred.

Scarlet Fever.

During the year 21 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified. The incidence of the cases was sporadic.

Measles.

There were 23 cases of measles notified during the year. None of the cases proved fatal. There were 47 cases in 1952, 146 in 1951 and 9 in 1950.

Influenza.

This disease is not notifiable; No deaths from the disease were registered.

Tuberculosis.

A Tuberculosis service is provided in its various aspects by the Regional Hospital Board, the Lancashire County Council and the District Council. The Hospital Board is responsible mainly for treatment, the County Council for prevention, care and after care. A Tuberculosis Health Visitor is provided by the Lancashire County Council and Hospital and Chest Clinic facilities by the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee.

The number of new cases notified during the year was nine 8 of which were respiratory. One death from Respiratory Tuberculosis was recorded.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Mortality Table on page 7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Facilities for the examination of material in suspected cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis, etc., are available for all medical practitioners.

Home Nursing and Midwifery Service.

General Nursing cases and confinements are attended by District Nurses and Midwives of the Lancashire County Council.

The following table shows new cases and Mortality during 1953.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Daths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0–1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1–5	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
5–10	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
10–15	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
15–20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20–25	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
25–35	–	2	–	–	–	1	–	–
35–45	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
45–55	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Over 55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Totals	2	6	–	1	–	1	–	–

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

There are no clinic or treatment centres under the direct control of the local authority.

School Clinic Sessions are held twice weekly on Tuesday and Friday mornings and a Child Welfare Centre Session every Tuesday afternoon in the Church Hall, Vicarage Road, by the School and Child Welfare Department of the Lancashire County Council.

The nearest Centres for the treatment of Venereal Diseases are at Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

Hospitals.

There is no hospital situated within the district. For general cases the main hospitals used are the Blackpool Victoria and Wesham Park Hospitals of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee and the Preston Royal Infirmary of the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

Infectious diseases cases are admitted to the Devonshire Road Hospital, Blackpool, excepting cases of tuberculosis and smallpox. Main provision for tuberculosis is at Elswick Sanatorium. Accommodation for smallpox is provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board at the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Near Bury.

Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance service is now administered by the Lancashire County Council. The nearest Ambulance Station to the Poulton District is situated at Thornton and in general ambulances are obtained from this station.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.

No. of applications made during 1953 under sub-section 3—Nil.

Water Supply.

The Fylde Water Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority, provides a plentiful and excellent supply of water from their gathering grounds at Grizedale and Stocks.

Supplies to Houses.

From Public Mains				From Private Supplies	
Direct to Houses		By Means of Standpipe			
No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population
2577	7820	Nil	Nil	2	6

Milk Supply.

There are 4 registered dairies in the District and 10 operating from premises outside the District. In addition there are 15 dairy farms within the District.

The dairies have been regularly inspected and have been kept in a satisfactory condition.

27 samples of milk were taken during the year by the County Sanitary Officers for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; all samples were found to be genuine.

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, 2 licences for distribution of "Tuberculin Tested" milk, were issued to dealers during 1953.

Housing Conditions.

1. General Observations as to Housing conditions.

Housing conditions in the District are good. 90 per cent. of the houses are modern and the older property in the centre of the town is kept in a fair state of repair by the owners.

There are no back-to-back or back-to-earth houses in the District.

2. Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

(a) Extent of Shortage.

There is still some need for smaller types of houses in spite of the completion of 315 Municipal houses and of 284 houses completed by private enterprise since 1945. There are approximately 150 persons on the waiting list for Municipal Houses.

(b) **Particulars of any Housing Scheme.**

Carr Head Estate (190 houses) has been completed with the exception of 8 Old People's Bungalows which will be occupied early in 1954.

One pair of houses only are contemplated immediately. Negotiations will be carried out in respect of a site for approximately 10 dwellings adjoining the existing Carr Head Estate.

(c) **Information as to any important changes in population.**

Numbers of families are moving into the district to new privately built properties, but it is anticipated that eventually the population will be considerably increased by this means.

(d) **Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.**

As progress is made in housing development the provision of adequate foul and surface water sewers will become increasingly important.

3. **Overcrowding.**

(a) **Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1953 : 4.**

(b) **Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding :** Nil.

(c) **Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding, e.g. causes :**

From the applications for Council Houses which have been received, it would appear that in many cases overcrowding is due to newly-married couples living with their parents due to the shortage of houses to let.

4. **Fitness of Houses.**

(a) **Difficulties found in action under the Public Acts or under the Housing Acts :** None.

(b) **Special Measures taken, e.g. in relation to carrying out programmes of repair :** None.

(c) **No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply :** None.

(d) **No. of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation :** None.

5. **Unhealthy Areas : None.**

6. **Action taken during the year regarding :—**
 (1) **Clearance Areas :** None.
 (1) **Improvement Areas :** None.
7. **Byelaws relating to houses, etc.:** Adequate.

Disinfection of Houses.

Disinfectant fluid is issued to all cases of infectious disease where requested.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of Action taken during 1953.

No. of Houses found to be infested.

(*a*) Council Houses : None. (*b*) Other Houses : None.

No. of Houses disinfested.

(*a*) Council Houses : None. (*b*) Other Houses : None

Methods employed for freeing infested Houses from Bed bugs.

Cyanide Gas.

Methods of Ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from Vermin before removal to Council Houses : Houses and furniture inspected.

Is work of disinfestation carried out by Local Authority or by a Contractor : By a Contractor.

Measures taken by way of Supervision or Education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing : None.

Summary of Report.

The birth rate shows a decrease on last year.

The crude death rate is lower than in 1952 and than the average for the past five years.

The maternal mortality is Nil. The infant mortality is higher.

The general incidence of infectious diseases was average.

Vital Statistics, 1953.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1953.....	107	65	42
Deaths in 1953.....	104	48	56
Still Births in 1953.....	1	1	—

Population : 7826	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1000, live births
Year 1953	107	* 13.7	104	* 13.3	1	9	nil	nil	5	47	4	37
Year 1952	106	14.0	106	14.0	2	19	1	9.26	3	28	2	19
,, 1951	120	16.0	119	15.8	1	8	nil	nil	4	33	3	25
,, 1950	99	12.9	103	13.4	4	39	nil	nil	1	10	—	—
,, 1949	82	10.8	98	12.9	4	47	nil	nil	3	37	—	—
,, 1948	118	15.4	109	14.2	3	24	nil	nil	5	42	—	—
Average 5 years : 1948 - 1952	—	13.8	—	14.1	—	27.4	—	1.85	—	30	—	—

* Adjusted : live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.03) = 14.1 per 1,000
death-rate (comparability factor, 0.89) = 11.8 per 1,000

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

on

The Sanitary Conditions

of the

District for the Year Ended 31st December, 1953

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my twenty-third Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district and the work done during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

Area of District, 2,410 Acres; Population, 7,826.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953 according to Rate Book: 2,579.

Particulars of Sanitary Accommodation.

Privy Closets	11
Pail Closets	16
Waste Water Closets	5
Fresh Water Closets	3,130
Dry Ashpits	—
Movable Ashbins	2,830

Conversions.

		During year 1953
No. of privy closets	to fresh water closets.....	0
	to waste water closets.....	0
	to pails, etc.....	0
No. of pail closets	to fresh water closets.....	0
	to waste water closets.....	0
Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles....		7

Sewerage.

Regular cleansing and rodding of the sewers have been carried out. The Disposal works consist of Ferro-Concrete tanks with a capacity of six times the dry weather flow of the district served by the sewers. Before the sewage enters these tanks it passes through a screening chamber. The outfall consists of a 27 inch diameter cast iron main fitted with the necessary valves and tidal flap and the sewage is discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide. These works have been satisfactorily maintained during the year and there have been no complaints.

Scavenging.

The scavenging of the district has been done weekly. The refuse is collected in a covered motor lorry and is conveyed away from the town to Skippool Marsh, where the resultant tip is under control.

Camping Sites.

(*a*) No of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1953.	Eleven
(*b*) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.	Two
(*c*) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1953.	800

Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited, 584.

Defects or nuisances : No. discovered 505 ; No. abated, 504.

No. of Notices served : Informal, 4 ; Statutory, 1.

Legal proceedings : None.

Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspection of Factories and Other Premises.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	0	0	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	31	45	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.)	0	0	0	0
Total	31	45	0	0

2. Defects found in Factories and Other Premises.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)..	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): (a) Insufficient	1	1	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to homework)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1	1	0	0	0

Bakehouses.

Number on Register :—8. Conditions :—Good.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one common lodging house in the district, and the accommodation is for 32. It has been regularly inspected and has been kept in a very satisfactory condition.

I am,

Sir and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

WILFRED G. WOOLLEY,

Cert. R. San. Inst.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.